autonomous Institutions of higher learning and research, on the subject?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986, based on an in-depth review of the educational situation and a national consensus, has laid down a comprehensive framework that continues to guide the development of education in its entirety.

Educational development is a continuous process. Constant efforts are made, from time to time, in consultation with State Governments and other stakeholders, and several measures taken to bring about improvements in the system to meet the emerging challenges. Several National Resource Organisations like the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), University Grants Commission (UGC), National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) etc. lend their expertise and advice on educational development.

Participation of NCC in earthquake relief measures

4646. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government found participation of NCC satisfactory in assisting in relief measures in the recent earthquake in Gujarat and are considering to include training of NCC in the courses and training of students in all NCC training centres, to meet the requirement for national calamities; and
- (b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government, in coordination and consultation with State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.